



## **“He cares for you.”**

Jesus Cares for Mary, Martha, and Lazarus  
– John 11:3-4, 21-23, 38-44

Lello was sitting quietly under the giant tree. Her eyes were looking at the ground as if concentrating on a blade of grass. Suddenly she looked up and saw Delbert and Granny B walking toward her. They were smiling and laughing. Lello sighed. She felt like hiding, but Delbert and Granny B had already noticed her and they were waving.

Granny B squinted her eyes, turned to Delbert and said quietly, “I think Lello is a bit sad today; let’s make sure we are very gentle with her.”

Delbert nodded. The two of them came closer to Lello and smiled at her. “Hello Lello,” Delbert said quietly, as he sat down next to her. “What’s wrong?”

Lello slowly looked up. “I was just thinking about my cousins. They moved a few months ago to a farm in another town. I miss them a lot.”

Granny B looked carefully at Lello and sat down beside her. “It’s hard when someone we love moves away and we don’t get to see them all the time, isn’t it?”

Lello nodded. Delbert started to frown, “Lello, I don’t like seeing you sad. That makes me sad, too.”

Granny B looked at them for a moment and said, “How would you like it if I read you a story from the Bible? Maybe it will help us. Would you like that?” They both nodded and moved in closer to Granny B. Granny B opened her Bible and began to read:

Mary and Martha were sisters. They sent a message to Jesus telling him their brother, Lazarus, was sick. By the time Jesus got there, their brother Lazarus had already died. The sisters were very sad. When Jesus saw them crying, He cried too. They went to the tomb; it was a

cave. A large stone kept the tomb closed. Jesus told them to move the stone. Then Jesus thanked God and called out in a strong voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' And out Lazarus came – he was alive! It was a miracle! Lazarus had died, but Lord Jesus brought him back to life!

Lello thought for a minute. "Did you say Jesus was sad too? I didn't know Jesus got sad."

Granny B smiled. "He does Lello. Jesus loves us so much that when we are sad, He is sad."

"Granny B, does Jesus care for us when we are sad, too? Just like He cared for Mary and Martha?" Delbert asked.

"He sure does Delbert. He cares for you. And one way He does that is by giving us special friends to help care for us," Granny B replied.

Delbert thought for a moment and then looked at Lello with a big grin on his face. "Lello, would you like to go over to the flower field with me? I know that's your favorite place on the farm. And maybe we can sing a song your cousins used to sing." Lello smiled. "Baa. Delbert, that'd be wonderful. Thank you so much. I know I'll feel better."

The two friends stood up. Lello nuzzled Granny B as a thank you. Granny B watched as Delbert and Lello headed down to the flower field. Just before they were out of sight Granny B called out, "Remember Lello, Jesus cares for you!"